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<u>L4</u>	L3 same node	62	<u>L4</u>
<u>L3</u>	L1 same cache	371	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u>	L1 and cache	732	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u>	control\$4 same ((shared or common) near5 memory) same (multiprocessor or (multi adj1 processor))	1085	<u>L1</u>

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<u>L5</u>	L4	0	<u>L5</u>
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<u>L4</u>	L3 same node	62	<u>L4</u>
<u>L3</u>	L1 same cache	371	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u>	L1 and cache	732	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u>	control\$4 same ((shared or common) near5 memory) same (multiprocessor or (multi adj1 processor))	1085	<u>L1</u>

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(700/5  709/213  709/214  709/251  710/305  710/317  710/300  710/62  710/4  710/72  711/141  711/148  711/120  712/14  712/211).ccls.	5746

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<u>L6</u> 710/305,317,300,62,4,72;711/141,148,120;709/213,214,251;700/5;712/14,211.ccls.	5746	<u>L6</u>
<i>DB=EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>		
<u>L5</u> L4	0	<u>L5</u>
<i>DB=PGPB,USPT,USOC; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>		
<u>L4</u> L3 same node	62	<u>L4</u>
<u>L3</u> L1 same cache	371	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u> L1 and cache	732	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u> control\$4 same ((shared or common) near5 memory) same (multiprocessor or (multi adj1 processor))	1085	<u>L1</u>

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<u>L7</u> 14 and L6	29	<u>L7</u>
<u>L6</u> 710/305,317,300,62,4,72;711/141,148,120;709/213,214,251;700/5;712/14,211.ccls.	5746	<u>L6</u>
<i>DB=EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>		
<u>L5</u> L4	0	<u>L5</u>
<i>DB=PGPB,USPT,USOC; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>		
<u>L4</u> L3 same node	62	<u>L4</u>
<u>L3</u> L1 same cache	371	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u> L1 and cache	732	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u> control\$4 same ((shared or common) near5 memory) same (multiprocessor or (multi adj1 processor))	1085	<u>L1</u>

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EAST - [Untitled1:1]

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2	BRS	L2	13	11 and cache	USPAT	2004/09/07 09:44			0

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EAST - [Untitled1:1]

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	U	I	Document ID	Issue Date	Pages	Title	Current OR	Current XRef
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6751705 B1	20040615	29	Cache line converter	711/122	711/120; 711/124;
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6751698 B1	20040615	101	Multiprocessor node controller circuit and	710/317	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6681293 B1	20040120	47	Method and cache-coherence system allowing purging of	711/122	711/120; 711/124;
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6636926 B2	20031021	28	Shared memory multiprocessor performing cache coherence	710/305	700/5; 709/213;
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6604185 B1	20030805	9	Distribution of address-translation-purge	711/207	709/250; 711/141;
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6510496 B1	20030121	30	Shared memory multiprocessor system and method with	711/147	709/215; 711/146;
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6363458 B1	20020326	16	Adaptive granularity method for integration of fine and	711/141	709/213; 711/147
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6253292 B1	20010626	22	Distributed shared memory multiprocessor system based	711/146	709/218; 711/148
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 6041376 A	20000321	19	Distributed shared memory system having a first node	710/108	709/238; 710/100;
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 5970510 A	19991019	10	Distributed memory addressing system	711/149	718/100
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 5968114 A	19991019	14	Memory interface device	718/100	718/104

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(shared or common) and memory and multiprocessors

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**1 A. novel approach to reduce L2 miss latency in shared-memory multiprocessors**
*Acacio, M.E.; Gonzalez, J.; Garcia, J.M.; Duato, J.;*

Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium., Proceedings International, IF 2002, Abstracts and CD-ROM , 15-19 April 2002

Pages:62 - 69

[\[Abstract\]](#)
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IEEE CNF

**2 Flexible use of memory for replication/migration in cache-coherent multiprocessors**
*Soundararajan, V.; Heinrich, M.; Verghese, B.; Gharachorloo, K.; Gupta, A.; Hennessy, J.;*

Computer Architecture, 1998. Proceedings. The 25th Annual International Symposium on , 27 June-1 July 1998

Pages:342 - 355

[\[Abstract\]](#)
[\[PDF Full-Text \(80 KB\)\]](#)

IEEE CNF

**3 Architectural support for uniprocessor and multiprocessor active memory systems**
*Kim, D.; Chaudhuri, M.; Heinrich, M.; Speight, E.;*

Computers, IEEE Transactions on , Volume: 53 , Issue: 3 , March 2004

Pages:288 - 307

[\[Abstract\]](#)
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IEEE JNL

**4 The impact of negative acknowledgments in shared memory scientific applications**
*Mainak Chaudhuri; Heinrich, M.;*



Parallel and Distributed Systems, IEEE Transactions on , Volume: 15 , Issue: 2 , Feb 2004  
Pages:134 - 150

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(1831 KB\)\]](#) IEEE JNL

### 5 Performance and configuration of hierarchical ring networks for multiprocessors

*Hamacher, V.C.; Hong Jiang;*

Parallel Processing, 1997., Proceedings of the 1997 International Conference on , 11-15 Aug. 1997  
Pages:257 - 265

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(944 KB\)\]](#) IEEE CNF

### 6 Design trade-offs in high-throughput coherence controllers

*Nguyen, A.-T.; Torrellas, J.;*

Parallel Architectures and Compilation Techniques, 2003. PACT 2003. Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on , 27 Sept.-1 Oct. 2003  
Pages:194 - 205

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(292 KB\)\]](#) IEEE CNF

### 7 Coherent block data transfer in the FLASH multiprocessor

*Heinlein, J.; Bosch, R.P., Jr.; Gharachorloo, K.; Rosenblum, M.; Gupta, A.;*

Parallel Processing Symposium, 1997. Proceedings., 11th International , 1-5 , 1997  
Pages:18 - 27

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(1188 KB\)\]](#) IEEE CNF

### 8 SOME-Bus-NOW: a Network of Workstations with broadcast

*Katsinis, C.; Hecht, D.;*

Network Computing and Applications, 2003. NCA 2003. Second IEEE International Symposium on , 16-18 April 2003  
Pages:113 - 120

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(602 KB\)\]](#) IEEE CNF

### 9 Coherence controller architectures for scalable shared-memory multiprocessors

*Michael, M.M.; Nanda, A.K.; Beng-Hong Lim;*

Computers, IEEE Transactions on , Volume: 48 , Issue: 2 , Feb. 1999  
Pages:245 - 255

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[PDF Full-Text \(864 KB\)\]](#) IEEE JNL

### 10 Toward a cost-effective DSM organization that exploits processor-memory integration

*Torrellas, J.; Liuxi Yang; Nguyen, A.-T.;*

High-Performance Computer Architecture, 2000. HPCA-6. Proceedings. Sixth International Symposium on , 8-12 Jan. 2000  
Pages:15 - 25



## Architectural support for uniprocessor and multiprocessor active memory systems

Kim, D. Chaudhuri, M. Heinrich, M. Speight, E.

Comput. Syst. Lab., Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY, USA

*This paper appears in: Computers, IEEE Transactions on*

Publication Date: March 2004

On page(s): 288 - 307

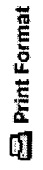
Volume: 53 , Issue: 3

ISSN: 0018-9340

**Inspec Accession Number: 8004231**

## Abstract:

We introduce an architectural approach to improve **memory** system performance in both uniprocessor and **multiprocessor** systems. The architectural innovation is a flexible active **memory controller** backed by specialized **cache** coherence protocols that permit the transparent use of address remapping techniques. The resulting system shows significant performance improvement across a spectrum of machine configurations, from uniprocessors through single-**node multiprocessors** (SMPs) to distributed **shared memory** clusters (DSMs). Address remapping techniques exploit the data access patterns of applications to enhance their **cache** performance. However, they create coherence problems since the processor is allowed to refer to the same data via more



than one address. While most active **memory** implementations require **cache** flushes, we present a new approach to solve the coherence problem. We leverage and extend the **cache** coherence protocol so that our techniques work transparently to efficiently support uniprocessor, SMP and DSM active **memory** systems. We detail the coherence protocol extensions to support our active **memory** techniques and present simulation results that show uniprocessor speedup from 1.3 to 7.6 on a range of applications and microbenchmarks. We also show remarkable performance improvement on small to medium-scale SMP and DSM **multiprocessors**, allowing some parallel applications to continue to scale long after their performance levels off on normal systems.

**Index Terms:**

cache storage distributed shared memory systems memory architecture protocols DSM SMP active memory controller address remapping technique architectural support cache coherence protocol data access pattern distributed shared memory cluster machine configuration spectrum memory system performance multiprocessor system single-node multiprocessor uniprocessor system

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## A. novel approach to reduce L2 miss latency in shared-memory multiprocessors

Acacio, M.E. Gonzalez, J. Garcia, J.M. Duato, J.

Dpto. Ing. y Tecnologia de Computadores, Murcia Univ., Spain;

*This paper appears in: Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium, Proceedings International, IPDPS 2002, Abstracts and CD-ROM*

Meeting Date: 04/15/2002 - 04/19/2002

Publication Date: 15-19 April 2002

Location: Ft. Lauderdale, FL USA

On page(s): 62 - 69

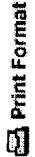
Reference Cited: 16

Number of Pages: CD-ROM

Inspec Accession Number: 7342351

### Abstract:

Recent technology improvements allow **multiprocessor** designers to put some key components inside the processor chip, such as the **memory controller**, the coherence hardware and the network interface/router. In this work we exploit such integration scale, presenting a novel **node** architecture aimed at reducing the long L2 miss latencies and the **memory** overhead of using directories that characterize cc-NUMA machines and limit their scalability. Our proposal replaces the traditional directory with a novel three-



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level directory architecture and adds a small **shared** data **cache** to each of the **nodes** of a **multiprocessor** system. Due to their small size, the first-level directory and the **shared** data **cache** are integrated into the processor chip in every **node**. A taxonomy of the L2 misses, according to the actions performed by the directory to satisfy them is also presented. Using execution-driven simulations, we show significant L2 miss latency reductions (more than 60% in some cases). These important improvements translate into reductions of more than 30% in the application execution time in some cases

**Index Terms:**

**cache** storage [parallel architectures](#) [performance evaluation](#) **shared memory systems** [L2 miss latency reduction](#) [cc-NUMA machines](#) [coherence hardware](#) [execution-driven simulations](#) **memory controller** [memory overhead](#) [network interface](#) **node architecture** [scalability](#) **shared data cache** **shared-memory multiprocessors** [three-level directory architecture](#)

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File: PGPB

Feb 19, 2004

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20040034747

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20040034747 A1

TITLE: Scalable cache coherent distributed shared memory processing system

PUBLICATION-DATE: February 19, 2004

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	COUNTRY	RULE-47
Rowlands, Joseph B.	Santa Clara	CA	US	
Gulati, Manu	Santa Clara	CA	US	

APPL-NO: 10/ 356321      [PALM]

DATE FILED: January 31, 2003

RELATED-US-APPL-DATA:

Application is a non-provisional-of-provisional application 60/380740, filed May 15, 2002,

Application is a non-provisional-of-provisional application 60/419033, filed October 16, 2002,

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 12/08

US-CL-PUBLISHED: 711/148; 711/119, 711/144, 711/145

US-CL-CURRENT: 711/148; 711/119, 711/144, 711/145

REPRESENTATIVE-FIGURES: 14

ABSTRACT:

A packetized I/O link such as the HyperTransport protocol is adapted to transport memory coherency transactions over the link to support cache coherency in distributed shared memory systems. The I/O link protocol is adapted to include additional virtual channels that can carry command packets for coherency transactions over the link in a format that is acceptable to the I/O protocol. The coherency transactions support cache coherency between processing nodes interconnected by the link. Each processing node may include processing resources that themselves share memory, such as symmetrical multiprocessor configuration. In this case, coherency will have to be maintained both at the intranode level as well as the internode level. A remote line directory is maintained by each processing node so that it can track the state and location of all of the lines from its local memory that have been provided to other remote nodes. A node controller initiates transactions over the link in response to local transactions initiated within itself, and initiates transactions over the link based on local transactions initiated within itself. Flow control is provided for each of the coherency virtual channels either by software through credits or through a buffer free command packet

that is sent to a source node by a target node indicating the availability of virtual channel buffering for that channel.

## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) to the following applications, each of which is incorporated herein for all purposes:

[0002] (1) provisional patent application entitled SYSTEM ON A CHIP FOR NETWORKING, having an application No. 60/380,740, and a filing date of May 15, 2002; and

[0003] (2) provisional patent application having the same title as above, having an application No. 60/419,033, and a filing date of Oct. 16, 2002.

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L7: Entry 14 of 29

File: PGPB

Jun 28, 2001

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20010005873

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new-utility

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20010005873 A1

TITLE: Shared memory multiprocessor performing cache coherence control and node controller therefor

PUBLICATION-DATE: June 28, 2001

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	COUNTRY	RULE-47
Yasuda, Yoshiko	Tokorozawa		JP	
Hamanaka, Naoki	Tokyo		JP	
Shonai, Toru	Hachioji		JP	
Akashi, Hideya	Kunitachi		JP	
Tsushima, Yuji	Kokubunji		JP	
Uehara, Keitaro	Kokubunji		JP	

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Hitachi, Ltd.				03

APPL-NO: 09/ 740816      [PALM]

DATE FILED: December 21, 2000

FOREIGN-APPL-PRIORITY-DATA:

COUNTRY	APPL-NO	DOC-ID	APPL-DATE
JP	11-366235	1999JP-11-366235	December 24, 1999

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 13/00, G06 F 13/38

US-CL-PUBLISHED: 710/129

US-CL-CURRENT: 710/305

REPRESENTATIVE-FIGURES: 1

ABSTRACT:

Each node includes a node controller for decoding the control information and the address information for the access request issued by a processor or an I/O device, generating, based on the result of decoding, the cache coherence control information indicating whether the cache coherence control is required or not, the node information and the unit information for the transfer destination, and adding these information to the access request. An intra-node connection circuit for

connecting the units in the node controller holds the cache coherence control information, the node information and the unit information added to the access request. When the cache coherence control information indicates that the cache coherence control is not required and the node information indicates the local node, then the intra-node connection circuit transfers the access request not to the inter-node connection circuit interconnecting the nodes but directly to the unit designated by the unit information.

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File: USPT

Oct 21, 2003

US-PAT-NO: 6636926

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6636926 B2

TITLE: Shared memory multiprocessor performing cache coherence control and node controller therefor

DATE-ISSUED: October 21, 2003

## INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Yasuda; Yoshiko	Tokorozawa			JP
Hamanaka; Naoki	Tokyo			JP
Shonai; Toru	Hachioji			JP
Akashi; Hideya	Kunitachi			JP
Tsushima; Yuji	Kokubunji			JP
Uehara; Keitaro	Kokubunji			JP

## ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Hitachi, Ltd.	Tokyo			JP	03

APPL-NO: 09/ 740816   [PALM]

DATE FILED: December 21, 2000

## FOREIGN-APPL-PRIORITY-DATA:

COUNTRY	APPL-NO	APPL-DATE
JP	11-366235	December 24, 1999

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 13/00, G06 F 15/167

US-CL-ISSUED: 710/305, 710/317, 711/141, 709/213, 700/5

US-CL-CURRENT: 710/305; 700/5, 709/213, 710/317, 711/141

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 710/305, 710/317, 710/300, 710/62, 710/4, 710/72, 711/141, 711/148, 711/120, 709/213, 709/214, 709/251, 700/5, 712/14, 712/211

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<input type="checkbox"/> <u>4747043</u>	May 1988	Rodman
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ART-UNIT: 2181

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Ray; Gopal C.

## ABSTRACT:

Each node includes a node controller for decoding the control information and the address information for the access request issued by a processor or an I/O device, generating, based on the result of decoding, the cache coherence control information indicating whether the cache coherence control is required or not, the node information and the unit information for the transfer destination, and adding these information to the access request. An intra-node connection circuit for connecting the units in the node controller holds the cache coherence control information, the node information and the unit information added to the access request. When the cache coherence control information indicates that the cache coherence control is not required and the node information indicates the local node, then the intra-node connection circuit transfers the access request not to the inter-node connection circuit interconnecting the nodes but directly to the unit designated by the unit information.

19 Claims, 16 Drawing figures

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L7: Entry 23 of 29

File: USPT

Apr 8, 2003

US-PAT-NO: 6546471

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6546471 B1

TITLE: Shared memory multiprocessor performing cache coherency

DATE-ISSUED: April 8, 2003

## INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Tarui; Toshiaki	Sagamihara			JP
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Okada; Yasuyuki	Yamato			JP
Shonai; Toru	Kodaira			JP
Okochi; Toshio	Kokubunji			JP
Akashi; Hideya	Hachiouji			JP

## ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Hitachi, Ltd.	Tokyo			JP	03

APPL-NO: 09/ 506810 [PALM]

DATE FILED: February 18, 2000

## PARENT-CASE:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Ser. No. 09/030,957, filed Feb. 26, 1998, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,088,770.

## FOREIGN-APPL-PRIORITY-DATA:

COUNTRY	APPL-NO	APPL-DATE
JP	9-059914	February 27, 1997

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 13/14

US-CL-ISSUED: 711/148; 711/141, 711/147, 711/149, 711/169

US-CL-CURRENT: 711/148; 711/141, 711/147, 711/149, 711/169

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 711/100, 711/113, 711/118, 711/119, 711/133-135, 711/141-149, 711/169, 711/206, 709/200, 709/201, 709/213, 709/218, 364/131

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Search Selected

Search ALL

Clear

PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
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ART-UNIT: 2187

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Nguyen; T. V.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Mattingly, Stanger &amp; Malur, P.C.

## ABSTRACT:

A shared memory multiprocessor (SMP) has efficient access to a main memory included in a particular node and a management of partitions that include the nodes. In correspondence with each page of main memory included in a node, a bit stored in a register indicates if the page has been accessed from any other node. In a case where the bit is "0", a cache coherent command to be sent to the other nodes is not transmitted. The bit is reset by software at the time of initialization and memory allocation, and it is set by hardware when the page of the main memory is accessed from any other node. In a case where the interior of an SMP is divided into partitions, the main memory of each node is divided into local and shared areas, for which respectively separate addresses can be designated. In each node, the configuration information items of the shared area and the local area are stored in registers. The command of access to the shared area is multicast to all of the nodes, whereas the command is multicast only to the nodes within the corresponding

partition when the local area is accessed.

4 Claims, 20 Drawing figures

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US006751698B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
Deneroff et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 6,751,698 B1**  
(45) Date of Patent: **Jun. 15, 2004**

(54) **MULTIPROCESSOR NODE CONTROLLER  
CIRCUIT AND METHOD**

(75) **Inventors:** Martin M. Deneroff, Palo Alto, CA  
(US); Oivargis G. Kaldani, San Jose,  
CA (US); Yuval Koren, San Francisco,  
CA (US); David Edward McCracken,  
San Francisco, CA (US); Swami  
Vankararaman, San Jose, CA (US)

(73) **Assignee:** Silicon Graphics, Inc., Mountain View,  
CA (US)

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** 09/407,428

(22) **Filed:** Sep. 29, 1999

(51) **Int. Cl.** G06F 13/00

(52) **U.S. Cl.** 710/317

(58) **Field of Search** 710/100, 305,  
710/306, 311, 316, 317, 709/238, 218,  
249; 712/12; 370/351, 419

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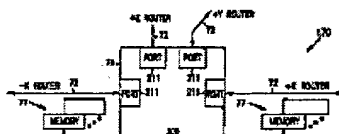
(List continued on next page.)

**Primary Examiner**—Xuan M. Thai  
(74) **Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Schwegman, Lundberg,  
Woessner & Khuth, P.A.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Improved method and apparatus for parallel processing. One  
embodiment provides a multiprocessor computer system  
that includes a first and second node controller, a number of  
processors being connected to each node controller, a  
memory connected to each controller, a first input/output  
system connected to the first node controller, and a com-  
munications network connected between the node control-  
lers. The first node controller includes: a crossbar unit to  
which are connected a memory port, an input/output port, a  
network port, and a plurality of independent processor ports.  
A first and a second processor port connected between the  
crossbar unit and a first subset and a second subset,  
respectively, of the processors. In some embodiments of the  
system, the first node controller is fabricated onto a single  
integrated circuit chip. Optionally, the memory is packaged  
on pluggable memory/directory cards wherein each card  
includes a plurality of memory chips including a first subset  
dedicated to holding memory data and a second subset  
dedicated to holding directory data. Further, the memory  
port includes a memory data port including a memory data  
bus and a memory address bus coupled to the first subset of  
memory chips, and a directory data port including a direc-  
tory data bus and a directory address bus coupled to the  
second subset of memory chips. In some such embodiments,  
the ratio of (memory data space) to (directory data space) on  
each card is set to a value that is based on a size of the  
multiprocessor computer system.

31 Claims, 70 Drawing Sheets





(12) **United States Patent**  
**Fromm**(10) Patent No.: **US 6,604,185 B1**  
(45) Date of Patent: **Aug. 5, 2003**(54) **DISTRIBUTION OF  
ADDRESS-TRANSLATION-PURGE  
REQUESTS TO MULTIPLE PROCESSORS**(75) Inventor: **Eric C. Fromm, Eau Claire, WI (US)**(73) Assignee: **Silicon Graphics, Inc., Mountain View,  
CA (US)**(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.(21) Appl. No.: **09/619,851**(22) Filed: **Jul. 20, 2000**(51) Int. Cl. **G06F 12/12**(52) U.S. Cl. **711/207; 711/141; 711/166;  
709/250**(58) Field of Search **709/1, 213, 218,  
709/232, 250; 711/141, 207, 206, 202,  
166; 713/2; 710/53, 54**(56) **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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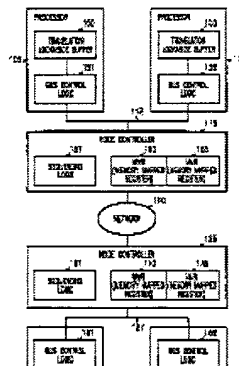
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**Primary Examiner**—B. James Pelkari(74) **Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Schwegman, Lundberg,  
Woessner & Kluth, P.A.**(57) ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for deallocating memory in a multi-processor, shared memory system. In one aspect, a node in the system has a node controller that contains sequencing logic. The sequencing logic receives a command across a network. The sequencing logic translates the received command into a Purge Translation Cache (PTC) instruction and sends the PTC instruction across a bus to a processor. The processor contains bus control logic that receives the PTC instruction and purges a virtual address specified in the PTC instruction from the processor's translation lookaside buffer. By purging the virtual address, the memory is deallocated.

**16 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Jhang et al.**

(10) **Parent No.:** US 6,253,292 B1  
 (45) **Date of Patent:** Jun. 26, 2001

(54) **DISTRIBUTED SHARED MEMORY  
 MULTIPROCESSOR SYSTEM BASED ON A  
 UNIDIRECTIONAL RING BUS USING A  
 SNOOPING SCHEME**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 711/141, 146,  
 711/147, 148; 710/128; 709/216, 217, 218,  
 251

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*Primary Examiner*—Kevin Verbrugge

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Anderson Kill & Olick, PC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A distributed shared memory multiprocessor system based on a unidirectional ring bus using a snooping scheme comprises a group of processor nodes and a ring bus. The processor nodes are arranged in the form of a ring and one of the processor nodes generates a request signal for a data block, the remaining processor nodes among their own internal parts, and one of the remaining processor nodes provides the data block. The ring bus is used for connecting the processor nodes in the form of the ring and providing a path through which the request signal is broadcast to each of the remaining processor nodes and the data block is unicast to the processor node which has generated the request signal for the data block.

13 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** 09/120,850

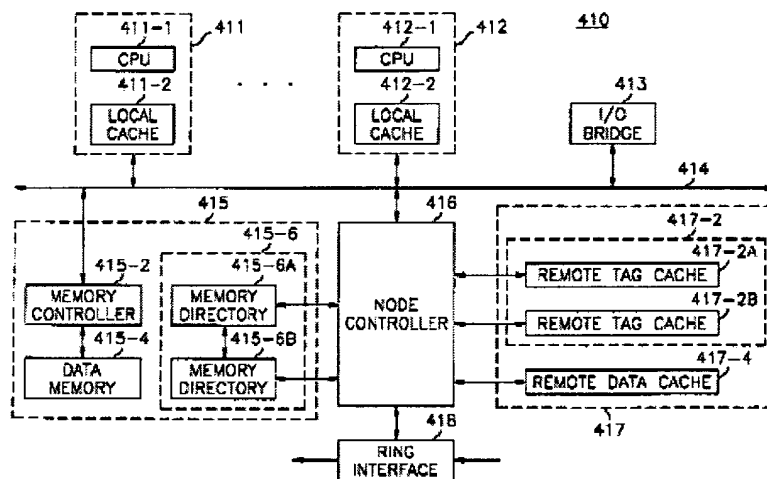
(22) **Filed:** Jul. 22, 1998

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Aug. 22, 1997 (KR) ..... 97-40083  
 Apr. 23, 1998 (KR) ..... 98-14513

(51) **Int. Cl.** ..... G06F 12/00

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 711/146; 711/148; 709/218



Sher et al.

[45] Date of Patent: \*Oct. 19, 1999

[54] DISTRIBUTED MEMORY ADDRESSING SYSTEM

[75] Inventors: Richard A. Sher, Huntington; Jerry Rogers, Seaford; Mark J. Wentka, East Northport, all of N.Y.

[73] Assignee: Northrop Grumman Corporation, Los Angeles, Calif.

[\*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

[21] Appl. No.: 08/629,839

[22] Filed: Apr. 10, 1996

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup> G06F 9/45

[52] U.S. Cl. 711/149; 709/100

[58] Field of Search 709/102, 100, 709/800.11, 106; 711/149, 203, 202

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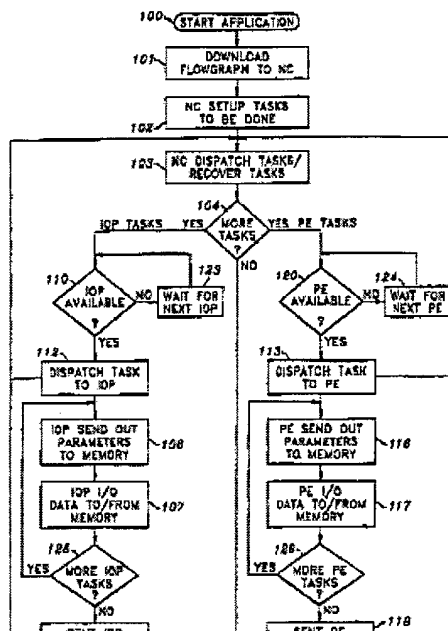
Primary Examiner—Majid A. Banankhah

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Terry J. Anderson; Karl J. Hoch, Jr.

[57] ABSTRACT

A distributed memory addressing system has a plurality of separate processing elements. Each processing element has at least one CPU. A shared memory is utilized to store data to be used by the separate processing elements, as required. A high bandwidth interface interconnects processing elements and the shared memory. The high bandwidth interface is configured so as to provide non-blocking access to the shared memory for each of the processing elements.

25 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



Wentka et al.

[45] Date of Patent: Oct. 19, 1999

## [54] MEMORY INTERFACE DEVICE

[75] Inventors: Mark J. Wentka, E. Northport;  
Richard A. Sher, Huntington, both of  
N.Y.

[73] Assignee: Northrop Grumman Corporation, Los  
Angeles, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: 08/822,746

[22] Filed: Mar. 24, 1997

## Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of application No. 08/629,839, Apr. 10, 1996.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> G06F 9/00

[52] U.S. Cl. 709/100; 709/104

[58] Field of Search 709/100, 102,  
709/104, 105, 106; 711/100, 170; 712/38,  
16

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Primary Examiner—Majid A. Banuakhtab  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Terry I. Anderson; Karl J. Hoch,  
Jr.

## [57] ABSTRACT

A memory interface device for facilitating electrical communication between distributed memory and a plurality of processors has a memory interface circuit configured to interface the memory interface device to at least one random access memory, an address generator circuit configured to generate addresses for data stored within the random access memories and a processor interface circuit configured to interface the memory interface device to a plurality of processors. Interfacing the memory interface device to both the random access memories and the plurality of processors facilitates simultaneous non-interruptible access by all of the processors to data stored in the random access memories.

17 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

